



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/711,948	10/15/2004	Kiyofumi Inoue	ND-US041028 (18.064-AG)	5947
29453	7590	06/30/2006	EXAMINER	
JUDGE & MURAKAMI IP ASSOCIATES DOJIMIA BUILDING, 7TH FLOOR 6-8 NISHITEMMA 2-CHOME, KITA-KU OSAKA-SHI, 530-0047 JAPAN			EVANS, JEFFERSON A	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2627	

DATE MAILED: 06/30/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Response to Rule 312 Communication	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/711,948	INOUE ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Jefferson A. Evans	2627	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

1. ☒ The amendment filed on 26 June 2006 under 37 CFR 1.312 has been considered, and has been:

a) ☐ entered.

b) ☒ entered as directed to matters of form not affecting the scope of the invention.

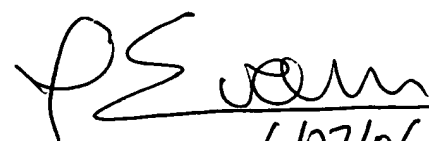
c) ☐ disapproved because the amendment was filed after the payment of the issue fee.

Any amendment filed after the date the issue fee is paid must be accompanied by a petition under 37 CFR 1.313(c)(1) and the required fee to withdraw the application from issue.

d) ☐ disapproved. See explanation below.

e) ☐ entered in part. See explanation below.

It is noted for the record that applicant is right in his comments concerning the Examiners Reasons for Allowance. The Reasons for Allowance should have stated that the shaft, not the sleeve, is attached to a base member. And applicant's comments concerning the title also apply to his Reasons for Allowance. The Reasons of Allowance should not have said "Laser welding" in the next to last line thereof, but rather should have referred to welding by a directive energy beam. The Examiner regrets these errors.


 Jefferson A. Evans
 Primary Examiner
 Art Unit: 2627
 6/27/06